

COUNCIL MINUTES - 1603/1604

This set of minutes was indexed by Damian Smith a postgraduate student at Abertay University. As no page numbers are present in the minutes, cataloguing was done on the basis of dates.

Dundee Town Council Minutes

1603-04

Index compiled by Damien Smith, Volunteer

Minutes 26 September 1603-18 September 1604

Personnel appointed on 26 September 1603

Provost - Sir James Scrymgeour of Dudhope

Baillies - William Auchinleck, John Schenan, John Lovell, Peter Clayhillis, Robert Fleshour, Thomas Man, George Ramsay, Thomas Craill, Andrew Fleshour, Patrick Wedderburne, William Golman, Alexander Ramsay, David Wedderburne, James Lyndsay, Patrick Yeaman, Thomas Auchinleck, William Man, William Duncan.

Dean of Guild - John Findlayson

Treasurer - James Moody

Hospitalmaster - Alexander Boyd

For the Crafts - William Gill
James Lyel

Alasone, John (Dean of the Baxters)

- Attacked and hit on the ear by a sword, the culprits names given in the minutes (17 April 1604).
- Patrick Brown confesses he was in the group (17 April 1604).
- Andrew Philip (gownmaker) convicted of drinking and calling the dean "hangman" (17 April 1604).

Arrest

- Officers to board the ship called the David and arrest the captain David Smairt, on suspicion that he had no license (18 January 1604).
- the officers report, they had stopped the ship and the captain had refused to co-operate (2 February 1604).

Auditor

- William Man appointed to audit the hospitalmasters accounts (28 February 1604).

Barry William

- Found guilty of striking Thomas Davidson on the face to be kept in the tollbooth until a public penance or other amends can be set (1 march 1604).

Bruce, Richard

- To be paid for his services of ringing the bell at 10pm nightly (18 October 1603).

Bursie, John (the elder)

- Awarded the sum of 100 merks for his services to maintaining the walls of the common graveyard and the Kirk wark (17 August 1604).

Claverhouse (Laird of)

- To take the 3,800 merks levied plus an additional 2000 merks to King James (9 August 1604). Thomas Hunter to assist him (see also Report from the Convention of Burghs).

Common Clerk (Alexander Wedderburne)

- Commission to pass to his second son, James Wedderburne, on his death (17 July 1604).

Court

- This first Thursday of every month set aside as a court for complaints against the officials (10 October 1603).

Court, Anthony

- Found guilty of rowdy behaviour and banned, on pain of banishment from doing it again (28 February 1604).

Couston, Thomas

- Found guilty of striking the daughter of Robert Watson, Skipper (7 June 1604).

Fines

- A list of persons fined for breaking the statutes over the price of ale and bread included in the minutes (12 March 1604), 86 persons in total.

Fyff, Henry (Mariner)

- Found guilty of causing a disturbance the previous night (17 December 1603).

Fyff, James (Baxter)

- Convicted of speaking against the Provost and sentenced in his absence as he refused to attend the Magistrates Court (14 April 1604).

Gardyne, Gilbert (A Skipper imprisoned for duelling)

- Ordered to do public penance and the Mercat Cross and ask forgiveness from the Baillie he disobeyed, this act subsequently deleted (13 December 1603).

Gourlay, Charles (bonnetmaker on the Hilltown)

- Witnesses testify that he is the next of kin to Patrick Gourlay who recently died in Poland (26 June 1604)
- Council sends off testimonial so Charles Gourlay can be heir to Patrick's properties (26 June 1604).

Guilde, Thomas (Shoemaker)

- Convicted of insulting Gabriel Symmer the deacon of the Shoemaker trade (29 May 1604).

Imbrie, Peter

- Act on Peter Imbrie to do no harm to Oliver Powrie (burgess) on the pain of a fine (7 December 1603).

Kynnaird, James

- Found guilty of disobeying a summons by John Lovell, Baillie and punished accordingly (4 June 1604).

Lamb, John

- David Donaldsone and William Muresone testify against John Lamb (29 May 1604).
- John Lamb found guilty of calling John Sym (the Deacon of the Walkers) a thief and threatening to hang him (29 May 1604).

Lovell, John (the elder)

- Appointed to keep a watch on the Southside of the water, to stop any people crossing over without a testimonial (18 October 1603).
- The treasurer to pay John Lovell for his service (18 October 1603).

Plague

- Nethergate and Cowgate to be closed as a precaution against the plague (18 October 1603).
- All ferry boats on the Tay to be brought over, no-one allowed to pass over the Tay, another precaution (29 May 1604).
- A further regulation against passage and a threat of death put on any who break it (29 May 1604).

Receipt

- Receipt of a voluntary contribution given to the village of Salt Prestoun, which had an attack of the plague (26 July 1604).

Report from the Convention of Burghs (held at Perth)

- Complaints against Dundee from the Burghs of Forfar and Haddington dealt with (26 July 1604).
- 16 thousand merks levied is to be sent to England (26 July 1604).
- The Council to levy a tax of 3 thousand merks as their share (1 August 1604).
- 1800 merks borrowed to pay the levied taxes (17 August 1604).

Roup

- The flesh and fish dues, the anchorage and shore silver to be rouped (18 January 1604).

Sergeants

- Sergeants appointed for the following year (10 October 1603).

Scrymgeour, Sir James of Dudhope

- Questioned by the Council over an alleged letter of suspension, relieving him of a visit to England in the Kings service. Everyone denies the existence of this letter except Robert and Andrew Fleshour and Thomas Man (4 September 1604).

Statutes

- Statute on mailmakers not to sell mail in any other town in the Shire (10 January 1604).

Tollbooth

- Any strangers and freemen lodged in the tollbooth to pay a two shilling jailors charge per day (10 January 1604).

Voluntary Contribution for Neighbouring Towns

- The last collection of the voluntary contributions found to amount to 250 merks and distributed as follows:-

80 merks to be given to Preston Pans £40 given to John Kynneir, Minister of the South Ferry to repair his kirk.

£20 to David Williamson, Minister, for the repair of a brig at Larbert.

The remainder to help a brig in Monifieth - the money overseen by Baillie William Auchinleck (18 January 1604).

- Mr Andrew Clayhillis, Minister at Monifieth, hands in a receipt for the money used to repair this brig (17 August 1604).

Watson, James (Flesher)

- Convicted of striking a Flesher named Black in Edinburgh and to pay a fine (31 December 1603).

Winter, Anna

- To receive a 40 shillings from the hospitalmaster for her support, because of the stipend assigned to her late husband (1 August 1604).

Yester, William (Sailor)

- Found guilty of hindering Alexander Carnegie and David Anderson (towns officers) in the execution of their duties (13 March 1604).

Young, Alexander (of Inch)

- In consideration of all his services to the town of Maine, Alexander Young to be laid to rest in the Newcross Kirk without the payment of any duties (31 December 1603).